

## Church News

## ROUND &amp; ABOUT WITH ERIA - 897-2008

Hendersons to be guests at Clay  
Hatchee Assembly of God, January 4th

The Hendersons from Milton, FL, will be in ministry at the Clay-hatchee.

Senior Citizens  
of Cordelia St.  
meet recently

Members of the Senior Citizens of Cordelia St. met Dec. 18 at the HRDC Building on Factory St. for their Christmas party and luncheon.

Some members were absent, but one member, Mrs. Zedie Bouyer, was back after a long absence. Gifts were exchanged and visitors welcomed to the meal of turkey, ham and all the trimmings. Those attending were: Mattie Lou Goodson, Ruthie Blanton, Shelia Hawn, Mary Suley, Zedie Bouyer, Ernestine Rhodes, Iris McDowell, Aileen English, Kathleen McCollough, Corrine Lowery, Annie Pearl Carpenter, Odell Reeves, Merle Boling, Mozell McCormick, Cora McBride, Elaine Roberts, Tina Roberts, Wayne Suley, Matt Brunson, Mike Brunson, Frank McCollough, Mary Phillips, Wanda Sasser.

Assembly of God on January 4, 1998 for the morning service. Service begins at 11:00 a.m. The church is located on Dale County Road 45, 1/4 mile from State Rd 92 on the right. Everyone is invited to attend.

Mt Vernon  
Assembly to have 2  
evenings of singing

Mt. Vernon Assembly of God will have two evenings of singing this weekend.

The High Ridge Gospel Singers will appear Friday, Jan. 2, at 7 p.m. The Scroggins Sisters, from Lucedale, Miss., will be in services on Sunday, Jan. 4, at the 11 a.m. service.

Mt. Vernon Assembly of God is located north of Elba, off Hwy. 189, on Co. Rd. 330. Everyone is invited.

WORSHIP AT THE  
CHURCH OF YOUR  
CHOICE THIS SUNDAY!TWO MINUTES  
WITH THE BIBLE

BY CORNELIUS R. STAN, PUBLISHER  
GERMANTOWN, TN 38002

WHERE ART THOU?  
WHERE IS THY BROTHER?

The first question of the Bible came from God Himself as He called to fallen Adam, hiding in fear from His presence: "Where art thou?" (Gen. 3:9).

Adam and Eve made a great mistake in running and hiding from God, for their plight was hopeless without Him. But none of Adam's children have done any better than he. In Psalm 14:3 we find the Lord scouring the earth, and it were, "to see if there were any that did understand [their need] and seek God," but the answer was, "No, not one."

How grateful we may be that in grace He sought us, that the Lord Jesus Christ came "to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10) and that "we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins according to the riches of His grace" (Eph. 1:7).

But another question follows naturally. This question too came from God Himself, as He asked the murderer, Cain, "Where is thy brother?" (Gen. 4:9). Cain countered with another question: "As I my brother's keeper?" but he soon learned that he was his brother's keeper as God drove him out of His presence, not only as a punishment, but to teach us all that we are indeed responsible for those about us.

The unsaved, who have never responded to God's call, "Where art thou?" should remember that God also asks them, as He did unregenerate Cain: "Where is thy brother?" By rejecting Christ as their Savior they are also keeping others out of heaven—others whom they might have been used to win to Christ, had they themselves been saved.

\*\*\*Scripture: Proverbs 14:1-35  
\*\*\*Thinking of you, praying for you: the Woods, Walker, and Stinson families; Hannah Coleman, Ella M. Brooks, Janie Donald, Catherine Johnson, George Capell, Robert Coleman, Johnnie Daniels, Pearl Tillis, Evelyn Manning, Lou Head, Rev. Henry Ewing, Rev. Charles Lane, Donald McBride.

\*\*\*December Birthdays: Calvin Carpenter - Dec. 5, Maryetta Carpenter - Dec. 8; Leo Brown - Dec. 23, Travis Musgrove - Dec. 23, Selena Musgrove - Dec. 26, Alice Musgrove - Dec. 28, Africa Tricha Wood - Dec. 28, Ashley McCollough - Dec. 31.

\*\*\*Installation Services for Pastor James W. Doster of Mark Missionary Baptist Church, Glenwood, Jan. 4, 3 p.m.; theme: Isaiah 61:1. Pulpit conductor - Pastor A.R. Williams; music by guest choir. The dinner was hosted by board members of the Boys to Men Club. Board members present were Bro. Harold Bannister, Mr. Winzell Gray, Bro. Lo Earl Flowers, Mr. Steve Toliver, Mr. Marion White, and Dea. Jimmy Jackson.

Future events are being planned and club members look forward to more times of fun and fellowship. The Youth Dept. of the Rocky Head Missionary Baptist Church, Highway 125, Elba, will host a New Year's Eve Youth Celebration beginning at approximately 9 p.m. Dec. 31, in the fellowship hall. Events will include praising God through song, drills, testimonies, mimes, instrumentals - whatever talent God has given them.

There will be three sessions of activity: eating and fellowship; fireworks; and dance. Food will be provided; however, everyone is asked to bring their own fireworks.

All youth are welcome. \*\*\*1st Matrons Day Program at St. Evelyn's Missionary Baptist Church, Glenwood, Rev. R.W. Doster, pastor, will be held Jan. 18, at 2:30 p.m. Guest speaker will be Rev. A.R. Williams, pastor of Rocky Head M.B. Church, Elba, and Shiloh Baptist Church, Tarentum Community, Brundidge.

Sis. Minnie Morris is president. \*\*\*Shady Grove African Methodist Episcopal Church, Elba, will have an annual Missionary Day Jan. 11 at 3 p.m.; theme - Nehemiah 4:6 Rev. Grover says, "I still have a long list of things to thank God for. I realize that a birthday filled with thanksgiving and hope is the happiest kind of birthday. I thank God for letting me live this long."

I know that a birthday is a milestone. It's a place to pause. I look back for a minute over the way the Lord has brought me, and I say, "thank you Lord, God is good!"

\*\*\*Kwanzaa begins - Kwanzaa was created in 1966 by Professor Maulana Karenga "to restore and reaffirm our African heritage and culture."

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## Church Directory

<b>ELBA CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY</b> - J.E. West Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m. Sunday Afternoon 5:30 p.m. Wed. Service 7:00 p.m.	<b>ELBA DELIVERANCE TABERNACLE</b> - Jimmy Porter Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m. Even. Service 6:00 p.m. Wed. Service 7:00 p.m.	<b>ELBA FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD</b> - Billy J. Redd Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Morn. Worship 10:30 a.m. Even. Service 6:00 p.m. Wed. Service 7:00 p.m.	<b>ELBA FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH</b> - Rev. Robert Paul Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Morn. Worship 10:00 a.m. Even. Service 6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Serv. 6:30 p.m.	<b>ELBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> - Marvin Ewing Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morn. Worship 10:30 a.m. Even. Service 6:00 p.m.	<b>ELBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> - Marvin Ewing Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morn. Worship 10:30 a.m. Even. Service 6:00 p.m.	<b>ELBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> - Marvin Ewing Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morn. Worship 10:30 a.m. Even. Service 6:00 p.m.	<b>ELBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> - Marvin Ewing Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morn. Worship 10:30 a.m. Even. Service 6:00 p.m.	<b>ELBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> - Marvin Ewing Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morn. Worship 10:30 a.m. Even. Service 6:00 p.m.	<b>ELBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> - Marvin Ewing Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morn. Worship 10:30 a.m. Even. Service 6:00 p.m.
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<b>NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH</b> J.C. Turner Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m. Even. Service 7:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Serv. 7:00 p.m.	<b>OF CHRIST - R.R. Williams</b> Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m. Even. Service 7:15 p.m. Wed. Bible Class 6:30 p.m.	<b>MULBERRY HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST - R.R. Williams</b> Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m. Even. Service 7:15 p.m. Wed. Bible Class 6:30 p.m.	<b>WOODLAND GROVE BAPTIST</b> Sharon Wooten Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m. Even. Service 6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Meet. 7:00 p.m.	<b>NEW PHILADELPHIA CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST - Lorrell Flowers</b> Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Morn. Worship 10:30 a.m. Even. Service 6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Meet. 7:00 p.m.	<b>WOODEN CHAPEL ASSEMBLY OF GOD - Mike Medley</b> Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m. Even. Service 6:00 p.m. Wed. Service 7:00 p.m.	<b>ZION CHAPEL BAPTIST CHURCH</b> - Raymond Miller Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m. Even. Service 6:00 p.m.	<b>ZION CHAPEL BAPTIST CHURCH</b> - Raymond Miller Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m. Even. Service 6:00 p.m.	<b>ZION CHAPEL BAPTIST CHURCH</b> - Raymond Miller Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m. Even. Service 6:00 p.m.	<b>ZION CHAPEL BAPTIST CHURCH</b> - Raymond Miller Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m. Even. Service 6:00 p.m.
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These church listings are sponsored by:  
Whitman Drug Co., Dorsey Trailers, SouthTrust Bank & The Elba Clipper

Rev. & Mrs. Joe Hoyt Cooper to celebrate fiftieth wedding anniversary

Rev. and Mrs. Joe Hoyt Cooper will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary at a reception given by their children on Sunday, Jan. 4, 1998, from two until four o'clock in the afternoon at Friendship Baptist Church, Coffee County Rd. 460, Kinross.

All friends and relatives are invited.

Card Of Thanks

The family of Gary Parker would like to thank everyone for their kindness and expressions of sympathy shown during the illness and death of our loved one Gary Parker.

The prayers, visits, calls, cards and flowers were deeply appreciated.

God bless you all.

ALLENE, WAYNE, GREG, SUMMER, SIERRA, SUZIE, SHARON & MRS. CLAUDINE PARKER

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## The Elba Clipper

VOLUME 101, NUMBER 31

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ELBA, ALABAMA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 1998

1 SECTION, 12 PAGES

## Coffee County Highway Department is a big operation

by Marvin McLain - Editor

The Coffee County Highway Department has the gigantic task of maintaining the county's approximately 260 miles of dirt roads and more than 480 miles of paved roads. Also, the operation and maintenance of the county's landfills is classified as heavy equipment such as bulldozers, motorgraders, piers, front-end loaders, and compactors.

Charged with the responsibility of overseeing this operation is Coffee County Engineer Randy Tindell. He

answers to the Coffee County Commission.

The highway department has 140 pieces of equipment valued at more than \$6.5 million at its disposal. A large amount of this equipment is classified as heavy equipment such as bulldozers, motorgraders, piers, front-end loaders, and compactors.

It takes a large number of personnel (a total of 69 persons) consisting



The majority of the county's equipment was in for maintenance during the recent holidays. Pictured above are several of the dump trucks.

## Town of New Brockton to bid garbage collection

by Marvin McLain - Editor

The New Brockton Town Council's first meeting in 1998 held Monday evening was uneventful except for a short executive session.

During the discussion of the town's garbage collection contract, members of the council deemed it necessary to go behind closed doors.

They felt that the good name and character of the present contractor, Royce Herrington, would be dis-

After spending fifteen minutes in executive session, the council reconvened and Councilperson Linda Gilbert made a motion to let the garbage collection contract out for bid.

Ron McMonagle seconded Gilbert's motion. Charles Cole cast the lone dissenting vote.

The council adopted an amendment to the town's ordinance (No. 97-004) dealing with junk cars. Although the town's attorney felt the language of the ordinance was sufficient as written, the council elected to pass the amendment clarifying the definition of a junk car.

The ordinance states that a car must be able to move under its own power and be mechanically safe to operate. It also defines a junk car as one creating unsanitary and unsafe conditions in a residential neighborhood.

Council members approved the amendment to Ordinance No. 97-004 unanimously.

Action by the council in getting with a new provider for the town's workers' comp insurance saved the town more than \$2,400.00.

The Sheffield Group through the Whitaker-Warren Agency of Enterprise was the lower bidder at \$5,009.00.

Mayor Bri Lee told council members that as far as he could tell in examining the coverage it was the same as with the previous provider.

Councilman McMonagle presented to the members of the council a proposal concerning cellular phones for the police department.

Mayor Lee noted that a couple of months ago, a citizen had expressed concern in contacting the police department after hours.

Since that time, Councilman McMonagle has been following up on the problem and Monday evening presented a possible solution.

By providing second and third shift portable-handheld cellular phones, the phones in the police station will be forwarded to the cellular number when there is no dispatcher on duty.

McMonagle recommended a two-month trial period with Cellular One of Enterprise which, after tests of several providers, seem to have the best coverage of the town.

The cost will be \$47.00 per month which includes a portable phone and 300 minutes of service per month. It also includes call waiting and call forwarding for the unit.

McMonagle told council members that if this works well, he would

recommend going with permanent mount-hands-free units in the police cars and a hand-held unit to be used when the officer is out of the car.

The cost of this option would be approximately \$75.00.

"This will insure that we have phone coverage," said McMonagle. "If anyone calls here [police station] in the evening, it will automatically go to the police officer in New Brockton. If he is busy, it will roll over to the county and they will call the officer on the radio."

The council approved McMonagle's recommendation unanimously.

Police Chief Charles Driggers reported that his department investigated complaints during the past month, made one arrest, issued 5 traffic citations, and investigated one automobile accident with no injuries.

The fire department responded to 6 fires while the rescue squad made 10 runs.

The chief noted that 9 stray dogs were picked up in November and 14 during the month of December.

In approving the expenses for the past month, \$32,723.16 (including salaries, etc.), Mayor Lee noted that the town had paid off a \$5,000.00 note and had more than \$37,000.00 remaining in the town's coffers.

Mayor Lee noted that the only major debt remaining is a \$21,000.00 note on the land (old railroad bed) purchased by the town for the fire and rescue building.

Other matters discussed by the council included the following:

\*\*\*Approved the attendance of City Clerk Annette Williams to a three-day grant writing seminar.

\*\*\*Agreed to assist in the celebration of Martin Luther King Day (January 19) in New Brockton which includes a march by citizens through town.

\*\*\*Agreed to help a resident of Medley Road in getting the county to do some work on the dirt road.

\*\*\*All tags with the exception of the vintage tag will remain with the current tag owner for use on any

subsequent vehicle the individual may own, as long as the subsequent vehicle requires the same tag classification and fee as the previously owned vehicle," explained Judge Gammill.

If an individual purchases or acquires a vehicle with a current and valid tag, the new owner is required to remove the tag and return it to the issuing official of his resident county. The new owner is not required to turn in the license plate to the issuing official.

There are two exceptions to the tag-follow-law in which certain distinctive tags or standard license plates will remain with the vehicle.

One is related to the transfer of ownership from a parent to a child of a vehicle. Note, however, that if a vehicle bears a distinctive license plate or a registration fee-exempt license plate for which the current owner would not qualify, the tag must be turned in to the licensing official within 30 days of the date in which the spouse obtains ownership.

The current owner of a vehicle must then apply for registration of the vehicle and obtain a new tag.

A new owner has ten calendar days in which to transfer his license plate from his previously owned vehicle to his newly acquired vehicle. The transfer fee will increase from \$1.00 to \$1.25.

Failure to register the vehicle within the 10-day period will result in a \$10 delinquent penalty.

Act 96-746 also requires the motor vehicle owners to retain a copy of their current year registration receipt in the vehicle beginning with the 1998 registration year.

Upon request, drivers must present the registration receipt to law enforcement officers for inspection. Failure to do so could result in a \$50 minimum fine.

Additional information concerning the above changes may be obtained from the Coffee County Probate Judge's Office at 897-2211 in Elba or 347-2688 in Enterprise.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BANQUET The annual Elba Chamber of Commerce membership banquet is scheduled for Saturday, January 24, 1998. The banquet will be held at the Elba High School. The guest speaker for the event will be novelist and screenwriter Robert "Bob" Inman. For additional information concerning the banquet contact the Chamber of Commerce at 897-3125.

of engineers, equipment operators, mechanics, and laborers to get the job done.

The equipment has to be properly maintained to insure that workmen can perform their assigned duties.

Coffee County has a comprehensive equipment operation and maintenance program. All fluids (grease, fuel, hydraulic fluids, etc.) for each piece of equipment are accounted for and reported on a monthly basis.

All county equipment is serviced at least as often as the manufacturer suggests and, in some cases, more often.

The equipment in the department is assigned to various crews and is the responsibility of the foreman over that particular crew. There are six crews in the highway department which are assigned to do specific job tasks and have the appropriate equipment to do so.

For example, there are two complaint crews which respond to citizen complaints. Each crew has three tandem-axle dump trucks, one single-axle dump truck, one backhoe, one front-end loader, and one motorgrader.

Another example is the right-of-way crew. They are responsible for cleaning the rights-of-ways along county roads, both dirt and paved.

The equipment assigned to this crew consists of three tractor mounted boom cutters, four industrial tractors, four fifteen foot haulers, one single-axle dump truck, one backhoe, one front-end loader, and one motorgrader.

There are six motorgraders that

work in pairs in three designated areas. Their responsibility is to blade all the county's dirt roads.

Several pieces of equipment are assigned to the county's landfill - 3 bulldozers, 3 piers, 1 motorgrader, 2 compactors, 1 tractor, and a hydro-seeder - and are used in the day-to-day operation of the facility. The equipment is also used in the construction of future cells for the landfill.

Engineer Randy Tindell said, "The heavy equipment owned and operated by the county has increased in both quantity and quality over the past 10 years. The maintenance and operation of this equipment has increased as well."

"With \$6.5 million in equipment, it is a continual process of buying and selling equipment as the budget allows in order to maintain the level of service expected by the citizens of Coffee County."



Coffee County Commissioners Linda Westbrook, Kayo Lewis and Commission Chairman Robert Stephens look over county's heavy equipment.

## Elba police solves area burglaries

by Marvin McLain - Editor

Two Elba men have been arrested and charged in connection with several recent area burglaries.

Jerry Jay Bradshaw and Tony Smith, both of Elba, were arrested on Tuesday, December 30, 1997, in Geneva.

A break in intense investigation by the Elba Police Department into

recent burglaries in the area came late Tuesday afternoon (Dec. 30).

Investigators were informed that some individuals were going to try to sell some stolen guns. Surveillance of the two suspects led the officers into Geneva County.

The two men managed to elude the surveillance; however, they were later spotted by officers and a high speed chase ensued through the City of Geneva.

The suspect vehicle wound up in a residential section of the city where the two men abandoned it on foot.

Shortly after 9:30 p.m., the two men, Bradshaw and Smith, were taken into custody at which time authorities searched their automobile.

The officers' search produced nine weapons in the trunk of the suspect vehicle.

According to authorities, several of the weapons have been linked to burglaries that occurred in Coffee County.

The two men were taken into custody by Geneva County authorities and charged with possession of stolen merchandise. Smith was also charged with reckless endangerment from the high-speed chase that took place.

Elba police received authority to search a residence near Elba and found other items - jewelry, money, weapons, electronic equipment, and other items - believed to be property taken in several local burglaries.

Several law enforcement agencies have been brought into the investigation due to the discoveries made by the Elba Police Department.

Involved in the broader investigation along with the Elba police are the 12th Judicial Circuit District Attorney's Office, Coffee County Sheriff's Department, Enterprise Police

Department, Geneva County authorities, Dale County authorities, and Pike County authorities.

As of today, the investigative agencies involved are still piecing together evidence and recovering items believed to be stolen.

Elba Police Chief Ronnie Whitworth had high praise for the men in his department.

"Several of my men put in some long hours of investigative work putting together information that ultimately broke this case," said Chief Whitworth.

The chief commended the other agencies involved in this investigation for their cooperative efforts. He feels that it will lead to the solving of several burglaries in Coffee County and several surrounding counties.

In another unrelated case, Elba police have arrested Mary Jean Caldwell, 32, and Roger Ware, 35, both of Elba. They were taken into custody Monday, January 5, 1998.

Caldwell was charged with theft of property and criminal trespass. Ware was charged with possession of stolen merchandise. Smith was also charged with reckless endangerment from the high-speed chase that took place.

According to Investigator Johnny Senn, Elba police answered a call to 608 Jackson Street where they found the complainant, Robert Jackson.

He told officers that the two suspects had taken approximately \$340 in U. S. Currency from his person.

Inv. Senn spotted the two suspects at the corner of Adkinson Street and Claxton Avenue at which time the arrests were made without incident.

The City of Elba recently recognized a number of its employees for their service to the city.

Service pins were presented to the group at the city's annual Christmas Party. Those employees recognized represented 330 total years of service to the City of Elba.

The following is a list of the honorees.

Five Years of Service - William S. Andrews, Arnold Beerenshaw, Marvin L. Clemmons, Doris H. Cooper, Wilson Dyess, Larry W. Edgings, Collier W. Hagler, Thomas Greg Hanchey, George M. Homyak, Ronald Martin, Tina Morgan, Richard R. Mularz, Don W. Napper, Johnny P. Senn, Doris R. Taylor, and Daniel E. Williams.

Ten Years of Service - Everett Dennis Coleman, Eleanor Jean Harrison, Mary Louise Hornsby, John R. Nelson, Michael Palmer, James W. Richter, Mary Helen Robinson, and Paul R. White.

Fifteen Years of Service - Danny Belcher, Patricia M. Boothe, Clara Duzier, and Freddy L. Hanchey.

Twenty Years of Service - Lenard Cook, Murray M. Hardwick, and Frankie Taylor.

Twenty-Five Years of Service - Charlie Johnson and Joyce Skinner.

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Please See TICKET, Page 11



## BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

Death hits this and every other community virtually every week of the year. It is a fact of life we can't change. Then for each of us there are times when it is his home harder than at other times. This week is one of those times for us. Charles Cox died last week. Before his retirement he was the man we called when our cars quit down the road somewhere ... when a vehicle wouldn't crank ... or one of the boys got stuck off the road somewhere they shouldn't have been to start with. Once at a extremely hot house fire, Fire Chief Charles Cox said, "Here, put down that camera and grab this fire hose." We did it too. Then Tuesday afternoon our very close friend Ed Cooper died. Hardly a day passed when we didn't drink coffee and ride together. There were also a lot of shared inner thoughts. When one of us missed the coffee time, Ed would usually come by the office with a wise crack about something or another ... just to watch us squirm. We counted both men as a friend and hope they are looking down from their lofty home at their friend Ferrin Cox right now. Both will be missed.

Credit card companies send most of us seemingly attractive deals if we will just agree to take one of their cards. Most have sure traps for the unsuspecting consumer. This week we got what appeared to be a great offer from one of our current card companies! They were offering a six or eight month, much lower than normal, interest deal to all card holders who added \$500 to their existing account within the next few weeks! Can't tell you what the come-on was with this one because we were busy and just trashed it as we do the others. The best interest deal around is to pay the balance each month without any carrying charges. If you know you can't pay for it, wait until later to buy it. Cutting personal spending is often better than wishing for an elusive pay raise AND it is completely nontaxable!

This week we read some recommendations on how to get the most out of a visit to Disney World. It was pretty smart writing in our book ... because it is what we have preached since first taking our children there right after the place first opened in the early 1970s. They (and we) recommend staying on the complex, going to the theme park real early, going back to the motel for a swim or nap during the rush from the day visitors, when the sun is beaming down and then going back late and staying until shut down to get most "seeing" for your time. On that trip we rode everything there was to ride ... everything. When checking out on Sunday we hitched a ride on the baggage carrier taking luggage across the parking lot. The driver was told he had the only thing we hadn't ridden that week and he said "hop on." Still remember the \$500 spent that week ... don't even want to know what the same deal would cost today! It would probably be close to that much for each of the four days of romping with Mickey and Donald.

Last week one of the Kennedy clan died in a skiing accident. This week U.S. Congressman Sonny Bono also died after hitting a tree while skiing. News report whispers are that Kennedy was reckless and was "asking" for trouble. Thus far, no such reports have surfaced about Bono. Oh, 62 year old Bono is a Hollywood type, and the former husband of movie star/singer Cher. He was the son of the son of the late Robert Kennedy and the nephew of the late President John F. Kennedy. Both accidents are sad and a tragic loss for friends and family.

## ATTENTION



**Barr's Seafood**  
has come to the point  
where it's time to  
close the doors.

**Saturday night, January 31  
will be the last day.**

*Dalton, Jean & family thank  
Elba and the surrounding areas  
for the past 41 years of support  
and patronage.*

**HAPPY NEW  
YEAR**  
From  
**TAMBO SALES CO.**

*We Would Like To Take This Opportunity  
To Thank Everyone For Their Patronage  
During Our First 5 Weeks Of Business.  
Words Can't Express The Warmth And  
Friendliness Shown To Our Family  
Throughout The Christmas Season.  
We Look Forward To Serving Elba And  
The Surrounding Area In The New Year.  
It Is Our Hope That 1998 Will Bring  
Happiness, Good Health And Prosperity To  
All, And With Help From God We Can Work  
Together To Make Our Small Part Of The  
World A Better Place To Live.*

*Many Thanks,  
Scott, Tammy,  
Vivian & Arnold*

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES  
Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$15.00 Per Year  
6 Months - \$8.00 - Including City & State Tax  
Alabama Counties - \$17.00 Per Year - Including Tax  
6 Months - \$9.00  
Outside Alabama - \$18.00 Per Year - 6 Months - \$10.00

## Elba Police Report

Dec. 29, 1997 Thru Jan. 4, 1998

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, December 29, 1997, investigated the following incidents: one property damage, one disorderly conduct, one resisting arrest, one death investigation, one assault, five thefts of property, one harassment, one criminal mischief, one criminal trespass, one child welfare investigation, and one dog pound break-in.

The following arrests were made: one for public intoxication, one for disorderly conduct, and one for resisting arrest.

Traffic citations issued were as follows: five for speeding.

Daily activity highlights were as follows:  
**MONDAY, DECEMBER 29** - River stage - 15.31 feet (6:00 a.m.); Alarm at SouthTrust Bank (8:03 a.m.); Possible burglary reported on Guyton St. (2:46 p.m.); Alarm at SouthTrust Bank (4:04 p.m.); Fire department dispatched to house fire on North Claxton Ave. (6:09 p.m.); Alarm at Elba Elementary School (11:35 p.m.).

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30** - River stage - 11.32 feet (6:19 a.m.); Alarm at SouthTrust Bank (7:48 p.m.); Routine activity.

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31** - River stage - 10.20 (6:29 a.m.); Routine activity.

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 1** - River stage - 9.51 feet (6:00 a.m.); Routine activity.

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 2** - River stage - 5.13 feet (6:00 a.m.); Minor wreck reported in city hall parking lot (9:43 a.m.); Fire department dispatched to fire in Morrow Village (4:56 p.m.); Rescue squad dispatched to stand by at fire in Morrow Village (4:57 p.m.); Prowler reported on North Claxton Ave. (10:15 p.m.).

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 3** - River stage - 8.82 feet (6:00 a.m.); Wreck reported at the intersection of Reese Avenue and Caroline Street (6:25 p.m.); Alarm at Kelley Foods (10:17 p.m.).

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 4** - River stage - 8.61 feet (6:00 a.m.); Disturbance (loud music) reported in Morrow Village (7:50 p.m.); Routine activity.

## ELBA GENERAL HOSPITAL REPORT

Elba General Hospital had the following persons admitted during the time period of December 30, 1997 through January 5, 1998. They were: Dorothy Smith, Vivian Green, Hudson Ennis, Milton Hooks, Betty Sue James, Allen Johnson, Amber Hanna, Helen Farris, Mary Agnes Mack, Edwin Cooper, William Twilley, and Elaine Barton.

Patients discharged during the same period of time were: Elizabeth Howard, Helen Farris, Jason Williamson, Jerry Nelson, Patricia Smith, Fannie Merle Berry, Edwin Cooper, and Allen Johnson.

## MAKING OURSELVES CLEARER

The Elba Clipper wants to correct errors that appear in this newspaper. Any reader wishing to point out our errors, whether ours or those of our sources, should contact the editor at 897-2823. Clarifications will appear promptly in this space.

## Bulletin Board

S.S. REP. - Courthouse 4th Tues 12:30 - 1:30 Call FREE 1-800-772-1213  
ROTARY CLUB - Tuesday @ Noon - First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall  
ELBA MINISTERIAL ASSN. - Tues. 8:00 a.m. Elba United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall  
ELBA CITY COUNCIL - 2nd & 4th Monday 6:00 p.m. City Hall  
WATER & ELECTRIC - Tuesday following 2nd Monday 6:00 p.m. City Hall  
COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION - 2nd & 4th Monday of each month - Community Room in Farm Center Complex @ New Brockton  
LIONS CLUB - 2nd & 4th Tues - 6:30 p.m. Senior Citizens Center  
ELBA CITY SCHOOL BOARD - 1st Thurs 5:30 p.m. Super Office  
AMERICAN LEGION - 1st Thurs - 7:30 p.m. Legion Hall, Troy Hwy  
RESCUE SQUAD - 2nd & 4th Tues - 7:00 p.m. - Rescue Squad Building  
MASSONIC LODGE #79 1st & 3rd Monday of each month - 7 p.m.  
BAND BOOSTERS 1st Mon. - 7 p.m. - Band Room @ Elba High School  
VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER - Mon-Fri 8-12 noon & 12:30-4:30 New Brockton @ Farm Center Complex 804 S.W. Ave.  
COFFEE COUNTY CO-HUNTERS ASSN. - 3rd Sat. 3 p.m. - Club House  
COFFEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN - 3rd Wed. Noon - Colony Inn, Enterprise  
AIRPORT AUTHORITY - Tuesday-12 Noon - City Hall Conference Room  
AARP Meets every 2nd Tuesday night of the month  
CIVIL AIR PATROL - Every Monday 7:00 p.m. - Elba Airport-District hangar

This space made possible by  
National Security  
Insurance Co.

**Southern Country Realty**  
& DuBose Appraisals  
**Beth DuBose**  
Broker/Owner  
832 N. Troy Hwy (Old ALFA Bldg)  
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**WANTED: 40 AC farm with pond or pond site-Some planted pines.**

**House & Bait Shop**  
Taylor Mill Rd  
1,032 sq. ft. - 3 BR - 2 Baths  
Central H & C - 12 X 24 Metal Shop  
Building - 1.78 AC±  
**\$44,900**

**849 Washington**  
Perfect for young couple or retirees  
2 BR-1 Bath - Completely Remodeled  
**\$25,900**

**NEW LISTING**  
15 Wooded Ac 14X70 Mobile Home  
2 Ponds-Screened Porch-Large Porch  
on Back - Fenced Beautiful place!  
**\$43,000**

**4 BR - 1 AC±**  
**OLD RIVER ROAD**  
**\$35,000**

**NEW LISTING**  
1,260 Sq. Ft.  
3 BR - 2 Baths 987 Morrow  
Screened Porch  
Hardwood Floors  
**\$56,900**

**1.3 AC @ Corner of Hwy 167 & CCR 239**  
3 Bedrooms - Garage • **\$43,900**

**CNTY RD 249 - 1 AC±**  
1,376 sq.ft.-Large Storage Work Shop  
**\$36,900**

**16 X 80 MOBILE HOME**  
On 2.75 Ac± 2 Br - 2 Bath  
Front Porch  
**\$24,900**

**1125 MORROW**  
3 BR - 3 Baths - 2 Fireplaces  
Exposed Beams - New H & C System  
**\$35,000**

**1400 JONES ST**  
Newly Painted - 3 Bedrooms - 2 Baths  
**\$55,000**

**Shop and Living Space**  
.91 AC - Fenced  
Hwy 87 South  
**\$29,900**

**6 AC± at WISE'S MILL**  
1,877 Sq Ft.  
3 BR - 2 Baths - Fenced Yard  
**Workshop**

**This is a Bargain!**  
833 N Washington  
4 BR - 2 Baths Central Heat  
**\$29,900**

**Executive Home**  
2500+ Sq. Ft. - 3 BR - 2 1/2 Baths  
Office/Sewing Room - 18 X 36' Pool  
w/Polaris - Exceptional neighborhood  
Near Hospital, Country Club & School  
**Owner financing available**

**TWO - 5 AC± Lots**  
Just outside city limits.  
City Water Available - \$2,000/ AC

**HISTORIC HOME**  
in Downtown ELBA  
3,770 sq. ft.  
4+ Bedrooms - 3 Baths  
Hardwood Floors- In-ground pool  
Central Heating & Cooling

**832 N. TROY HWY • ELBA • PHONE 897-5506 or 897-6692**

## AREA DEATHS

### CHARLES COX

Mr. Charles Cox, age 67, of Elba, died Jan. 2, 1998, at his home.

Funeral services were held Jan. 4, 1998, at 2 p.m. at Hayes Funeral Home Chapel, with Dr. Tony Dye officiating.

Burial was in Damascus Baptist Church Cemetery, with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Mr. Cox was a native of Coffee County, had been a merchant in Elba for many years, as well as a member of the Elba Fire Dept.

Survivors include his wife: Louise Johnson Cox, Elba; son and daughter-in-law: Billy and Sharon Cox, Ozark; grandson and granddaughter-in-law: Brandy and Nicole Cox, Troy; four sisters and brothers-in-law: Eleanor Daughtry and Earl, Columbus, Ga.; Helen Farris and Charles, Elba; Sue Boyette, and Fred, Jasper, and Linda Johnson, Montgomery; one brother: James Cox, Lake City, Fla.; his father: Bradley Cox, Elba.

Mr. Cox was preceded in death by his mother, Ruthie Bell Cox, Elba; and a son, Freddie Cox.

**HENRY J. CLARK JR.**  
Mr. Henry J. Clark Jr., age 84, of Vestavia, died Nov. 24, 1997. He was a native of Elba and long-time resident of Birmingham.

He was a founder of the Clark Corp., and owner and operator of Southeast Electric Inc.

Funeral services were held Nov. 26, 1997, at 10 a.m. at Ridout's Southern Heritage Chapel, with burial in Evergreen Cemetery in Elba, Ridout's Southern Heritage directing.

Survivors include his wife: Josephine H. Clark; son and daughter-in-law: Henry J. Clark III and Patricia, all of Vestavia; daughter and grandson: Linda and George Keen, Kingsport, Tenn.; grandchildren: Kelly Clark, Ben Keen and Kristen Keen; brother: Frank Clark, Enterprise; sisters: Minnie Alice Cox, Betty Sue Green, and Nell Hayes, all of Montgomery.

**JEWEL DEES PARKER**  
Mrs. Jewel Dees Parker, age 72, of Rt. 3, Elba, died Jan. 5, 1998, in the Elba General Hospital.

Funeral services were held Jan. 7, 1998, at 11 a.m. at Mt. Gilead Baptist Church, with Rev. Larry Grimm officiating.

Burial was in Mt. Gilead Cemetery, with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include two sons: James Ward, Elba; Harvey Ward, Enterprise; four daughters: Mary Morgan, Corbin, Ky.; Lucy Walkin, Carthage, Miss.; Betty Long, Myakka City, Fla.; Obetta Elliott, Carthage, Tex.; companion: James Myers, Elba; 27 grandchildren, 43 great-grandchildren, three great-great-grandchildren.

**JAMES PAGE**  
Mr. James Page, age 55, of New Brockton, died Dec. 30, 1997, at his home.

Funeral services were held Jan. 3, 1998, at 3 p.m. from Poplar Springs Baptist Church in New Brockton, with Rev. J.L. Gray officiating.

Burial was in Hardshell Cemetery with Sconiers Funeral Home of Enterprise directing.

**COLEMAN FUNERAL HOME**  
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In Time of Need Call  
**334-897-6148** We accept Discover Cards  
•FREE Notary •FREE Pick-up within 300 miles  
•World Wide Fax Services

### BARBARA JUNE SHIVER

Mrs. Barbara June Shiver, age 46, of Rt. 2, Brundidge, died Jan. 3, 1998, at her home.

Funeral services were held Jan. 5, 1998, at 11 a.m. at Hayes Funeral Home Chapel, with Rev. Mack King and Rev. Ray Stinson officiating.

Burial was in St. John Baptist Church Cemetery in Brundidge, with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include her husband: Ronny Shiver, Brundidge; daughter: Amber Shiver, Brundidge; son: Cade Shiver, Troy; father and mother: John V. and Kathleen Legg, Troy; two sisters: Kathy McLeod, Troy; and Brenda McDermont, Jack; two brothers: Haywood Legg and John Legg, Jack.

**RUFUS C. VAUGHN**  
Mr. Rufus C. Vaughn, age 68, of Marianna, Fla., died Dec. 30, 1997.

Mr. Vaughn was born in Elba, graduated from Malone High School, attended Chipola Jr. College, and graduated from the University of Florida in 1958.

He became associated with Marianna Federal (now Regions Bank), became president, then CEO and Chairman of the board, retiring in 1991.

Funeral services were held Jan. 2, 1998, at 10 a.m. at First Baptist Church in Marianna, with James and James Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include his wife: Marie M. Vaughn, Marianna; two sons: David C. Vaughn, Jacksonville, and Terry R. Vaughn, Tallahassee; a brother: Bobby A. Vaughn, Tallahassee; sister: Evelyn V. Hall, Gordon, Ala., and two granddaughters.

**HENRY C. WOODS**  
Mr. Henry C. Woods died Dec. 22, 1997. He was born Feb. 17, 1931.

Funeral services were held Dec. 27, 1997, at 1:30 p.m. at Shady Grove African Methodist Episcopal Church, Elba, with Rev. F.L. Flowers officiating.

Burial was in Shady Grove A.M.E. Church Cemetery, with Hammond Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include his wife: Ola L. Woods; four daughters: Ann, Debbie, Angela and Africa; two sons: Tracy and Travis; seven grandchildren, including Kavonda Thrasher; two great-grandchildren; eight brothers, 13 sisters, daughter-in-law: Jennifer Woods; son-in-law: James Harris, and other relatives.

**EDWIN WALKER COOPER**  
Funeral services for Edwin W. Cooper, who died Tuesday afternoon, January 6, 1998, will be held Thursday morning at 11:00 A.M. from the Elba United Methodist Church.

Family visitation will be Wednesday evening from 7 P.M. until 9 P.M. in Hayes Funeral Home Chapel.

Full obituary information was not prepared at press time and will be published in the next issue of the paper.

**WILLIE C. CAMPBELL**  
Mr. Willie C. Campbell died Jan. 2, 1998. He was born March 15, 1910, in Charleston, S.C.

Funeral services were held Jan. 6, 1998, at 2:30 p.m. at Bethlehem Baptist Church, with Rev. Daryl Caldwell officiating.

Burial was in Bethlehem Cemetery with Coleman Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include his wife: Evelyn Campbell, Opp; three sons: Willie Campbell Jr., Rochester, N.Y.; Willie "Nathan" Stoudemire, Opp; and Leonard Campbell, Goshen; an adopted son: Lester Campbell, Enterprise; three daughters: Rose Coates, Philadelphia, Pa.; Shirley Lindsey, Opp; and Gloria "Nell" Campbell, Dothan; six sisters-in-law: Catherine (John L.) Edwards, Opp; Myrel (Willie) Ramer, Kinston; Sue (Carrie) Williams, Denver, Colo.; Minnie Lee Thigpen, Elba; Mary Lee Stoudemire, Opp; Cottie Stoudemire, Ga.; three brothers-in-law: A.Z. (Francis) Stoudemire, Elba; Harvey D. (Ella Mae) Stoudemire, Opp; Douglas (Eva Louise) Stoudemire, Opp; 13 grandchildren, five great-grandchildren.

**ANETTE MERCER JOHNSON**  
Mrs. Annette Mercer Johnson, age 63, of Elba, died Dec. 30, 1997, at her home.

Funeral services were held Dec. 31, 1997, at 2 p.m. at Hayes Funeral Home Chapel, with Dr. Tony Dye, Dr. Robert Paul, and Rev. Henry Johnson officiating.

Burial was in Hillcrest Memorial Garden, with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include her husband: Milford W. Johnson, Elba; two sons: and daughters-in-law: Jerry and Clara Johnson, Montgomery; Tim and Lisa Johnson, Elba; three grandsons: Chafin Johnson and Cameron Johnson, Elba; and Will Johnson, Montgomery; one granddaughter: Casey Johnson, Montgomery; three sisters: Louise Ivey, Norman Park, Ga.; Doris Sterling, Moultrie, Ga.; and Maude Hattaway, Elba.

**DEAR EDITOR,**  
The Pairs and Spares Sunday School Class of the Elba United Methodist Church recently had a meaningful experience in coordinating "Operation Santa Claus" for the Elba and Jack areas.

While we provided most of the labor, the success of Operation Santa Claus would not have been possible without the help of other people, organizations and local businesses. This project proved once again that Elba is a "small town with a big heart."

A heart-felt thanks goes to the individuals who gave toys, time and money, merchants who gave money and/or provided services; the Sunday School classes of First Assembly, First Baptist, Westside Baptist, and Elba United Methodist for toys, money and labor; the local social and civic organizations for money; Kleiner's and the Salvation Army for providing space for storage and distribution as well as labor.

Gratefully,  
**JEAN T. HELMS**

**DEAR EDITOR,**  
We ask for your help in obtaining names and addresses of Samson High School alumni who live in your area, as plans are underway for an all-classes reunion and peanut boiling in Samson in the fall of 1998, similar to the reunion of November, 1997.

Sincerely,  
**SHIRLEY HENDERSON**  
**JEAN MOORE**

**Pre-need Funeral Planning now available at Hayes Funeral Home for details 897-2225**

**Share Your Views!**  
Write a Letter to the Editor.

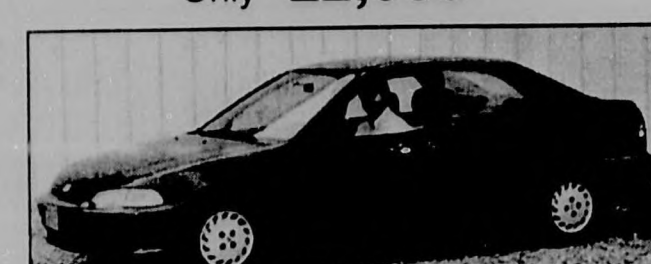
## THIS WINTER SALE IS HOT

at **Cook Chevrolet & JIM COOK FORD**

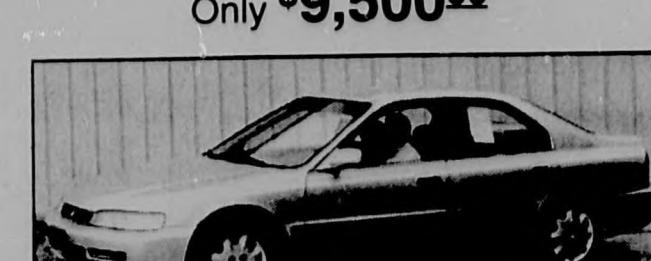
"Drive a Little, Save A Lot" "Dedicated to serving the motoring public"



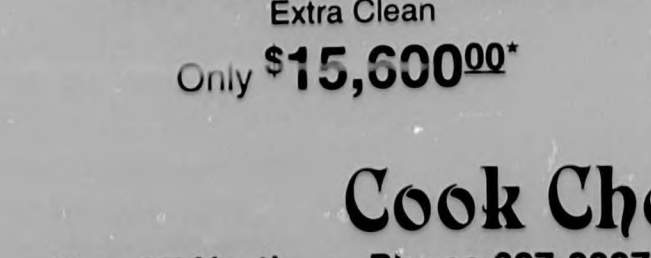
**1996 Impala SS**  
Local One Owner Trade-In  
Only **\$22,995<sup>00</sup>\***



**1996 Buick Park Avenue**  
Loaded With Leather  
Only **\$18,995<sup>00</sup>\***



**1995 Honda Civic**  
Only **\$9,500<sup>00</sup>\***



**1996 Honda Accord LX**  
Extra Clean  
Only **\$15,600<sup>00</sup>\***



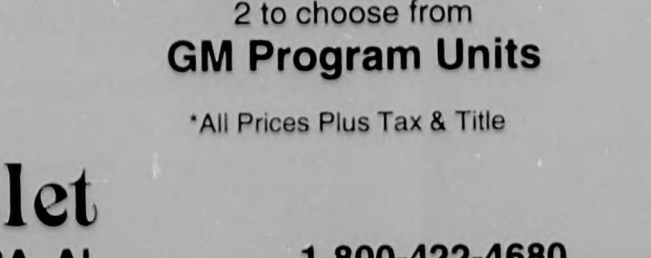
**1993 Cavalier**  
Only **\$5,595<sup>00</sup>\***



**1994 Sunbird**  
Only **\$6,995<sup>00</sup>\***



**1996 Blazer LS**  
2 to choose from  
GM Program Units  
Only **\$10,500<sup>00</sup>\***



**1996 F-150 Reg Cab XLT**  
Unbelievable Price!  
Only **\$10,500<sup>00</sup>\***



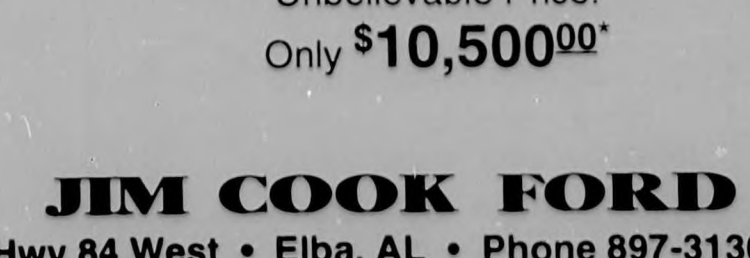
**1989 Lincoln**  
only 62,000 miles  
Only **\$6,700<sup>00</sup>\***



**1994 Sunbird**  
Only **\$6,995<sup>00</sup>\***



**1996 F-150 Reg Cab XLT**  
Unbelievable Price!  
Only **\$10,500<sup>00</sup>\***



**1996 Blazer LS**  
2 to choose from  
GM Program Units  
Only **\$10,500<sup>00</sup>\***

**JIM COOK FORD**  
Hwy 84 West • Elba, AL • Phone 897-3130



## Hicks-Herring wedding held January 3rd

Mr. and Mrs. George L. Herring announce the marriage of their daughter, Dr. Gina Herring, to Dr. David Bruce Hicks of Williamsburg, Ky.

The wedding took place Jan. 3, 1998, in Jackson, Ga., with the bride's father officiating.

Dr. Hicks is the son of Mrs. Wright Hicks Sr. and the late Dr. Hicks of Jackson, Ga.

The bride is the granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. James English of Elba.

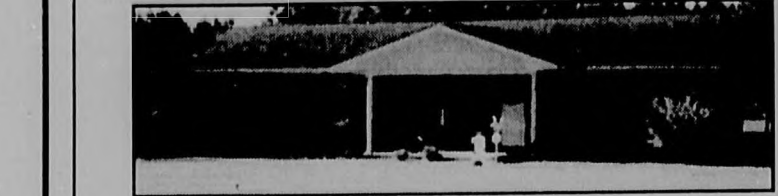
The Drs. Hicks are both members of the faculty of Cumberland College in Williamsburg, Ky.

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**COMING SOON!**  
SMALL TRACTS OF LAND  
5-6 acre tracts - prime location - road frontage  
WATCH FOR OUR ADS AND SIGNS



**NEW LISTING: Just outside town . . . 3 BR, 2 Baths, w/7 Acres of land MOL . . . Excellent location for Mobile Home Park . . . Give us a call.**



**COUNTRY HOME:** Excellent Starter or Empty Nest Home . . . Energy efficient, on approximately 1/2-acre lot. Located in Kingston School District. 3 BR, 2 Baths, CH&A. Approximately 7 miles from Elba. Shown by appointment only.



**INSIDE CITY LIMITS w/5 Acres MOL:** Brick home with new built-in appliances, new carpet, new roof. 3 BR, 1-1/2 Bath. Large barn, utility house with patio. All on 5 acres MOL. 1485 Smith Ave.



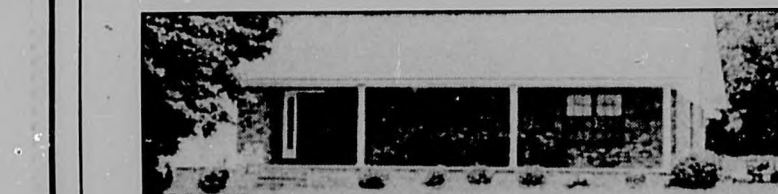
**REMODELED COUNTRY HOME - - Price Reduced.** Completely remodeled and updated, on Coffee Co. Rd. 408 in Basin/Curtis Communities. 3 BR, 2 BA, Den w/F, DR, CH&A. Approx. 2200 SF. On approx. 3/4-acre lot. New appliances. New roof. Really nice home.



**LOOKING FOR A NICE HOME? - - Must see this one . . .** Remodeled w/Large Lot in good neighborhood, with huge eat-in kitchen, 3 BR, 2 BA, with separate quarters for kids! Approx. 1900 SF. 987 Sunset Blvd.



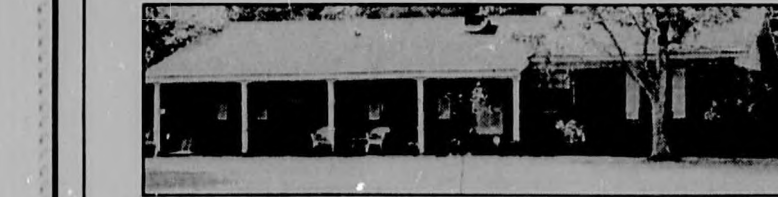
**READY TO SELL - GREAT BUY!!!** Very spacious house with 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, inside city, sitting on a hill on 1.1 acres, MOL, and very private location.



**SPECIAL HOME - w/GREAT LOCATION**  
Great Price - w/32 Beautiful Oak Cabinets! 3 BR, 2 BA, master bedroom in separate wing with walk-in closet and double vanity in master bath. Approx. 1634 SF, CHA, on approx. 1.87 acres. 3020 Hickman. Price \$76,500.



**LOOKING FOR A GREAT VALUE - COME AND SEE.** Ranch Style, Brick Veneer, 3 BR, 1-1/2 Baths, CH&A. Eat-in Kitchen. Good location. Available to show any time.



**EXCELLENT STARTER or Empty Nest Home.** 3 BR, 2 Baths, Den, Eat-in Kitchen - CH&A, Fireplace. Good location. Call for appointment.

**LIST WITH US AND SEE YOUR PROPERTY IN FULL COLOR AS THOUSANDS OF OTHERS WILL SEE IT THROUGHOUT THE U.S. ON OUR TWO WEBSITES.**

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## Social &amp; Community News

## Giles-Rodriguez wedding planned for January 23rd



Miss Amy Giles

Mr. and Mrs. Barry Giles announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Amy Leigh Giles, to Leo Rodriguez R., son of Leo G. Rodriguez and Victoria R. Miranda.

The bride-elect is a student at Troy State University and will be transferring to Sul Ross State University in Eagle Pass, Texas.

Her fiancé is the publisher and partner of Southwest Texas Publishing Company, Inc.

The couple will be united in a small family ceremony on Friday, Jan. 23, 1998, at the Elba United Methodist Church.

His great-grandparents in Elba and R.D. and Lessie Harrison.

## Sam Floyd is one year old



Sam Floyd

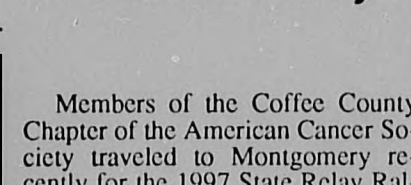
Samuel Harrison Floyd celebrated his first birthday on Nov. 15, at his home in Montgomery. He was joined by his big brother, Drew, his mom and dad, Heather and Bob, grandparents, Pam and Gary Harrison, great-grandparents, Floyds, Baggett, Scarbrough and Harrison; uncles, aunts and cousins.

Sam's birthday cake was a "duck party" theme, complete with a yellow duck on grass atop the cake.

He received many nice gifts.

His great-grandparents in Elba and R.D. and Lessie Harrison.

Members of the Coffee County Chapter of the American Cancer Society traveled to Montgomery recently for the 1997 State Relay.



Tonya Glover

During this rally, results of the 1997 Relay for Life campaign were announced, and Coffee County placed No. 1 in the state and No. 6 in the nation for most money raised per capita at \$3.58 per capita.

Committee members were presented a plaque and 6-ft. banner marking the recognition.

The Coffee County Relay for Life is a 12-hour team walk event that takes place at the Enterprise State Junior College track.

Attendees from Coffee County included Dr. Sam Sawyer, Diane Redline, Virginia and Jimmy Wood, Kip Altschuler, and Linda Andrews.

The 1998 Coffee County Relay for Life will be held May 15, 1998, at the ESJC track.

Anyone interested in participating in this event may contact Linda Andrews at 347-3411 or Kip Altschuler at 393-1491.

## Tonya Glover awarded Master of Science Degree

Tonya Christine Glover, daughter of Bob and Penny Glover of Elba, recently was awarded a Master of Science Degree in psychology from Jacksonville State University in Jacksonville, Ala.

During her year and a half at Jacksonville State, she did research work at museums between Birmingham and Atlanta, where she analyzed public reaction to various museum displays, and worked with museum personnel to enhance exhibits for visitors.

Tonya received her Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Mississippi in Oxford, Miss., in 1996. During her time at Ole Miss she worked at the Oxford Rape Crisis Center with victims of rape immediately after the crime.

Tonya's plans are to remain in the Anniston, Ala. area and work with children with psychological disorders in a hospital setting.

**Bradley Florist & Gift**  
• Crystal Stewwear  
• China  
• Flatware

305 Collier - 897-3422



Austin Snell

## Austin Dale Snell celebrates first birthday recently

Austin Dale Snell celebrated his first birthday on Friday, December 26.

Austin is the son of Theresa and Dale Snell of Enterprise.

Dale has an older sister, Kimberly (Kim), age 4.

His grandparents are James Maddox of Elba and Adelia Snell of Enterprise.



**TAKE THE SHOT** Mitch Morrow, age 2, practices his jump shot on a cool winter afternoon in front of his home in Starkville, Mississippi. Mitch is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Bert Morrow of Starkville. He is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Jake L. Morrow, Sr. and the great-grandson of Mrs. Alma L. Morrow, all of Elba. Mitch has two older brothers, Jake III and Charlie. (Photo courtesy Starkville News, November 4th)



Mr. and Mrs. Jessie Smart

## Mr. and Mrs. Jessie Smart honored on fiftieth wedding anniversary

Lela and Jessie Smart celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Nov. 30, 1997, at Bluff Springs Baptist Church.

Helping celebrate the special occasion were their children: Rita, Ronnie, Rhonda and Terry; their six grandchildren, and many friends and relatives, totaling 87 well-wishers who visited during the afternoon.

Clark Theatres • Enterprise	
1-1 FIRESTORM	(R)
M-F 7:45 - 9:45, 2:45 - 4:45	No discounts after 6:00 p.m. No popcorn.
2-2 AN AMERICAN WEREWOLF IN PARIS	(R)
M-F 7:45 - 9:45, 2:45 - 4:45	No discounts after 6:00 p.m. No popcorn.
3-3 SCREEN 2	(R)
M-F 7:45 - 9:45, 2:45 - 4:45	No discounts after 6:00 p.m. No popcorn.
4-4 MOUSE HUNT	(PG)
M-F 7:45 - 9:45, 2:45 - 4:45	No discounts after 6:00 p.m. No popcorn.
5-5 TITANIC	(PG-13)
M-F 7:45 - 9:45, 2:45 - 4:45	No discounts after 6:00 p.m. No popcorn.
6-6 WAG THE DOG	(R)
M-F 7:45 - 9:45, 2:45 - 4:45	No discounts after 6:00 p.m. No popcorn.
7-7 TOMORROW NEVER DIES	(PG-13)
M-F 7:45 - 9:45, 2:45 - 4:45	No discounts after 6:00 p.m. No popcorn.
8-8 BARRACUDA	(PG)
M-F 7:45 - 9:45, 2:45 - 4:45	No discounts after 6:00 p.m. No popcorn.

**Deadline for Social News is Monday!!!!**

**Weather it rains or it pours we've got you covered . . . .**

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**STAN MARSH 1973 - 1998**  
137 N. COURT ST. ELBA, AL 36323

## Church Notes

## Bradys to appear at Wise Mill Assembly of God

"The Bradys" will be appearing and ministering in music at Wise Mill Assembly of God Saturday, Jan. 10, at 7 p.m.

The church is located on Coffee Co. Rd. 224, just off Hwy. 125, near Elba.

Everyone is invited.

For more information contact Rev.

## The Lighthouse announces schedule

The "Lighthouse" of Elba, is a place to find help, give help, enjoy great fellowship, read, pray with others, study the Bible.

There are special ministry meetings to receive life-changing training.

Schedules are:  
Tuesday - 7 - 9 - Prayer and Share  
Thursday - 7 - 9 - Training for Life

Saturday, Jan. 17 - 2 - 4 p.m. - Ladies Seminar, "Makeover of the Heart."

For emergency help, contact James and Linda Clifton, 897-8452; or Kay Harmon, 897-5504.

The Lighthouse is located in the yellow house beside Riviera Motel; phone 897-8453.

## Gospel Concert &amp; Barbecue planned by Andalusia Kiwanis

There will be a free Gospel Concert at the Kiwanis Community Building on the Southern Bypass in Andalusia on Saturday, Jan. 17, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Featured singers will be The Melody Boys Quartet of Little Rock, Ark., and the Ainsworth Family of Andalusia.

For more information contact Don Cotton at 334-222-6120.

There will be a Barbecue on the same day and time, with Mt. Zion United Methodist Church selling plates for \$5.00. Plates will be ready at 5 p.m.

For more information on the BBQ plates, contact Sandy Baker at 222-9089.

## NORMA P. SAMUY, M.D. and the SOUTHEAST ALABAMA RURAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION announce the association of SORAYA T. LIM, M.D. for the practice of PEDIATRICS

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Office Hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday Call (334) 393-KIDS (5437) or 1-800-942-9636 for an appointment and for assistance after hours and on weekends.

On Nov. 10, 1978, the Association bought two acres of land on U.S. Hwy. 84 (then Hwy. 166), from Deacon T.L. and N.R. Lindsey, and on Jan. 20, 1979, in an adjudicated, final plans were made for the construction of the building which now sits on the site.

Earlier, 52 acres of land called Spurling Gap were purchased for the purpose of erecting an educational building, but due to inconveniences in that area, the current site was chosen.

Purposes of the Association and its educational building are: "to promote home and foreign missions; encourage and support Christian education; and to engage in needy Christian work for the advancement of the Kingdom of Christ Jesus throughout the world."

Other auxiliaries added throughout the years include annual sessions in 1882, Women's/Matrons' Convention - 1912, Sunday School and BTU Congress - 1949; Youth Fellowship - 1958; Laymen Convention - 1972; Usher/Choir Union - 1974; Ministers, Deacons, and Laymen Union, and Ministers' Alliance.

The 28 churches of the Association, including Coffee, Pike, Covington, Geneva, and Crenshaw Counties are: Antioch, Bethlehem, Clay Hill, Elam, Elba Zion, Friendship, Good Hope, Goshen First Baptist, Greater Pleasant Valley, Jordan Grove, Macedonia, Mt. Canaan, Mt. Calvary, Mt. Chapel, Mt. Olive, Mt. Sinai, Mt. Zion, New Hope, New Mt. Pleasant, New Zion, Oak Grove, Piney Grove, Pleasant Ridge, Rocky Head, St. John, St. Mark, Spring Hill, and Zion Chapel.

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## ROUND &amp; ABOUT WITH ERIA 897-2006

\*\*\*Scripture: Romans 3:1-18  
\*\*\*Thinking of you, praying for you: the Blackman, Page, Cox and Campbell families; Mary B. Belcher, Ola Woods, Ashanti Kirg Belcher, Minnie L. Thigpen, Timothy Thigpen, Annie Pearl Bullard, Donald Waters, Nathan Williams.

\*\*\*January Birthdays: Melissa Kelley - Jan. 2, Lanchessia Cross - Jan. 3, Bobby Gully - Jan. 13, Tillman Lindsey - Jan. 14 (in memoriam), Jama Kelley - Jan. 16, Christina Nelson - Jan. 18, Hattie Bell Carpenter - Jan. 18, Britany Daniels - Jan. 22, Marcus Henderson - Jan. 30.

\*\*\*Annual Missionary Day at Shady Grove AME Church, Elba, will be held Jan. 11 at 3 p.m. Rev. F.L. Flowers is pastor.

Devotional by visiting churches, music by visiting choir, welcome and occasion by Sis. Catherine Waters and Sis. Annie Flowers; readings by LaShonda Cole and Sis. Clidie Goosby; speaker - Rev. W.J. Curry, pastor of Shady Grove M.B. Church, Daleville, and Mt. Moriah M.B. Church, Andalusia.

\*\*\*1st Matrons' Day Program at St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church, Glenwood, will be held Jan. 18, at 2:30 p.m. Rev. R.W. Doster is pastor; guest speaker - Rev. A.R. Williams, pastor, Rocky Head M.B. Church, Elba, and Shiloh Baptist Church, Tarentum.

Sis. Minnie Merritt is president.

\*\*\*Milton Belcher, Baptist and KiKi of Montgomery were weekend guests of Grover and Eria Belcher of Elba.

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## HRDC now taking applications for households needing assistance with heating bills

Human Resource Development Center, Inc. is now accepting applications for households needing assistance with heating bills. The applicant must provide the total household income (gross) for the month of December, 1997; a copy of a recent heating bill; and the Social Security number of the applicant in whose name the application is being taken. For more information contact Human Resource Development Corporation at 347-0881, Ext. 34; 897-2667 or 363-3411, writing, an individual to apply for.

### Card Of Thanks

The family of  
**VIRGINIA T. REEVES**

would like to thank everyone for each kindness and expressions of love extended to the family during the loss of our beloved mother.

**FOYER LONG  
GINGER M. REEVES, JR.  
SAMI CREEL**



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**GRAND CHAMPION!** ... Shown with her Grand Champion steer is Vaughan Boyd of Coffee County 4-H Club. Vaughan won the overall Grand Champion award at the recent Belt Buckle Classic held in Luverne. Vaughan is a sophomore at Elba High School.



**RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION!** ... Shown with her Reserve Grand Champion steer is Emily Bryan of Coffee County 4-H Club. Emily's steer was the Reserve Grand Champion at the recent Belt Buckle Classic held in Luverne. Emily is a junior at Elba High School.

## Farm producers meeting set for Wednesday, January 14th

An informal meeting concerning low-interest emergency loans now available through USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) will be held Jan. 14 at 9:30 a.m. in the Community Room of the Dale County Agricultural Center in Ozark.

All farmers and ranchers in the Wiregrass area are invited. "On Dec. 15, Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman signed a declaration designating 62 Alabama counties including all those in the southern part of the state, disaster Noninsured Assistance Program (NAP) payments were made are not eligible for loans.

EM loans carry an annual interest rate of 3.75 percent with varying terms. Loan funds may be used for operating expenses, living expenses, debt restructuring, or farm reorganizations," said Robert D. Springer, State FSA Executive Director.

"As a result, farmers who suffered 1997 crop losses due to severe weather conditions may now apply for EM (emergency) loans. FSA scheduled the meeting in Ozark based on extensive losses incurred by Wiregrass farmers as a result of a late-season drought.

"Southeast Alabama and the Tennessee Valley were the hardest hit areas of the state," Springer said. "Persistent cold temperatures coupled with excessive rain prevented crops from being planted in north Alabama while dry conditions plagued farmers further south."

To qualify for EM loan assistance through FSA, farmers must have suffered at least a 30 percent loss. Losses on which Catastrophic Crop Insurance Program (CAT) or

Richard Peltcher  
County Extension Agent  
Hints for  
backyard gardeners

The end of December and January constitute a sort of lull ahead of the storm period for home gardeners. It is still a little early to be planning your own seedlings and getting into the major throws of gardening; but in some ways this is the perfect month for gardeners.

This is the month to look over seed catalogues or visit your favorite store, and it is the time to dream of your perfect, weedless, bug-free garden. This is a time to mull over last year's problems and consider changes to make for the next season. It is a time to consider fertility - a time to be making compost or adding leaves, peanut hulls or other items high in organic matter to your garden.

Adding nutrients to your soil is sort of like putting money in the bank - nutrients give the soil what the plants need in the spring. This is also the time to be considering new ideas for your garden. Just a few ideas you may want to consider for your garden this year are: possibly using mulch in the form of leaves or black plastic; herbicides for weed control; at least on part of your garden and save your self some of that weeding time.

You may want to consider adding drip irrigation to your garden and have your neighbors marvel at those vegetables you are harvesting while others have none. You may want to spice up the aesthetics of your garden by making a border of shrubs or a fence or adding special walkways.

The Agricultural Center is located at 1702 Highway 123 South in Ozark (just off Hwy 231). Special accommodations will be made, upon request, for persons with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment. Anyone requiring accommodations may call Ronald Davis at 334/774/2634.

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FRUIT TREES	FLOWERING & SHADE TREES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pecan</li> <li>Apple</li> <li>Pear</li> <li>Peach</li> <li>Fila</li> <li>Plum</li> <li>Nectarine</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grape</li> <li>Scuppernon</li> <li>Pomegranate</li> <li>Japanese Persimmon</li> <li>Walnut</li> <li>Blueberry</li> </ul>

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FRUIT TREES	FLOWERING & SHADE TREES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Red Tips</li> <li>Boxwood</li> <li>Yopon</li> <li>Hellier</li> <li>Leland Cypress</li> <li>Juniper</li> <li>Bridal Wreath</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bradford Pear</li> <li>Silver/Red Maple</li> <li>Dogwood</li> <li>Japanese Magnolia</li> <li>Weeping Willow</li> <li>Snowball</li> <li>Kwanzen Cherry</li> <li>Yoshino Cherry</li> <li>Flowering Crab</li> <li>River Birch</li> </ul>

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**VICA Spotlight**

**Tiger Tales**

**ANNA HEAD**  
Editor

**ELIZABETH STRONG**  
Assistant Editor

by Diana Jackson  
This week's VICA Spotlight focuses on Brandy Mamm, an employee at Dorsey Trailers. She serves as a Switchboard Operator.

Brandy is the daughter of Rudy and Jackie Mann and is a senior at Elba High School. She is a member of SGA, FHAA, Girl Scout Troop #100, and is secretary of Sr. Beta Club and secretary of VICA.

Brandy's hobbies include shopping, spending time with family and friends, and swimming. After high school, she plans to attend Auburn University and major in Elementary Education.

an "Evening in Paris." This theme was decided on by pageant directors Misty Kelley and Elizabeth Strong and sponsor, Julie Norris. Entertainment for Miss Elba will be provided by jazz band member, Anna Head, and the EHS Jazz Band.

Members of the staff would like to express a thank-you to the students who participated in this year's pageant. Also, the staff would like to say thanks to Elba High School for the use of the facility and Mrs. Padgett for her assistance with decorations.

The journalism staff invites everyone to come out and enjoy an "Evening in Paris" on January 10, 1998 at 6:00 PM in the Elba High School auditorium.

As the sparkle of dust fell on me, a feeling of joy and good will came into me and I smiled. I started laughing out loud then I quieted back down.

Santa finished his work, then turned and waved goodbye and walked out the door. As I sat there, feeling wonderful, I realized that Santa had opened my eyes to the joy of Christmas. His sparkly dust had worked a miracle on this modern-day scrooge. I went back to my room knowing tomorrow would be a wonderful day. I'd make sure of it myself.

by: Tawanna Rodgers  
The students of Elba High School remember the first day of school all too well. No more sleeping late and eating breakfast at 1:00 in the afternoon. It was time to get into the grind with new teachers and new classes. Well, get ready students, because January 5 will bring a strong reminder to that day. Once again, new teachers and new classes.

This is an important semester for many. For the class of '98 it will be the last semester of high school. For the class of '99, it will be the last semester before they become "Big Bad SENIORS!" For the rest of the students at E.H.S., it will be the last semester before a long-awaited summer vacation. So, E.H.S. students don't be weary of the new semester, look forward to it!

by: Amanda Campbell  
On January 15, Mr. Rusty Parker from the Mailbox Company will be at Elba High School to take cap and gown measurements. He will be in the E.H.S. library classroom at 7:30 a.m. to begin taking the much-awaited measurements. All seniors are reminded to bring \$25.75 for their deposit. He will also have extra tassels for \$6.00 if anyone would like to purchase one.

by: Terence Kyles  
We all had a wonderful Christmas. We went to all seven continents giving boys and girls toys. The best place was Australia because it was like having Christmas on a summer day.

After going to all the nations, he headed toward the North Pole. We asked, "Are we heading toward the North Pole?" He didn't say a thing, he just smiled at us.

We arrived at the North Pole at 6:30 A.M. He showed us around. He showed us a snow dome. There inside were little kids of all ages. He said, "This is what happens to kids who see me on Christmas Eve night. He zapped us into the snow dome."

This is why your parents tell you to go to sleep early on Christmas Eve night. by: Chris Bryant

Many years ago, when I was young, Santa Clause came to my house. He visited me every year on Christmas Eve. I was always half-awake. I had some cookies and milk ready for him. That Christmas Eve night, he ate the cookies and drank the milk that was ready for him. He knew I was always half-awake. When he finished eating he came to my bed.

On that one night I thought he was relatives came to visit us for the holidays. We shared our greetings and exchanged hugs. We said our grace and began to eat our splendid feast.

"You have been a good girl, just remember next time, not to have your eyes open, and you'll get an extra gift."

The next Christmas Eve, Santa came. I had cookies and milk to give him. That time I was awake again, but he didn't know it. I saw the two gifts put down beside my bed instead of under the tree. He left after he put the gifts down.

The next morning on Christmas Day, I looked beside my bed. There were two gifts. One was my favorite toy, the minichair. The other was a letter that said, "I knew you were awake. I did not know I knew I was awake. I guess I thought I was getting a second gift free."

by: Nancy Chism  
Once upon a time on a Christmas Day, I was walking on the Pea River bridge to my grandmother's house for Christmas. As I was walking I heard a voice. It asked me where I was going. I ignored it and kept walking. When I got to my grandmother's I told her about the voice I had heard. She said, "All these years I've been walking across that bridge and no one has ever told me about a ghost."

Grandmother said, "You didn't know that my dear." "No, I never heard the voice before," I said back. Grandmother said, "Well, now you know and have heard it." "Now I will not be able to get home," I said. "You're not afraid," Grandmother replied. "It is only the Ghost Christmas Year Ago."

As we walked into the kitchen, I asked, "What are we having?" Grandmother replied, "We are having baked potatoes, turkey, yams, and red velvet cake. We sat down at the table and began to fix our plates." Grandmother said, "There should always be a blessing said at the table before we eat." Then a voice spoke up. "Say the blessing, the little girl's right."

"Did you hear that?" Grandmother said. "Yes, I heard it," Grandmother said. "It is just a ghost, grandmother."

"Go ahead, say the blessing, so we can eat," Grandmother said. "Grandmother, are you afraid?" I asked. After saying the blessing we began to eat. After finishing dinner grandmother asked, "Why did you ask me if I were afraid?"

"I thought I would ask you just to check and see if you were, Grandmother."

I answered, "It's my turn to say it. Drop the subject and let's go to open presents," I said.

As we began to open presents, I asked Grandmother to open presents first. As grandmother opened it, she said, "It is beautiful, but it shines too much for me to actually tell what it is. What is it?"

"It's a necklace, Grandmother," I said. Grandmother said, "Look under the tree with your eyes closed and pick one." I have more and it is very light."

"Open it," Grandmother said. "What is it," I asked. "It is the power of Christ mas Years Ago," Grandmother said. "Thanks," I said. "It is getting late. You need to be going now," she replied. "Bye, Grandmother. I will see you next year and Merry Christmas," I said.

by: Alisha Hudson  
When I was very young I had under the table on Christmas Eve so that I could see what I was going to get for Christmas. I have done the same thing every year since that night. When my Mom leaves to go to bed, I hide to see what I am getting.

The next Christmas Eve when I did the same thing, I fell asleep. I tried and tried to stay awake long enough. I went to sleep and I had a dream.

I dreamed I went under the table on Christmas Eve, and got caught. My mom switched me and made me go to bed. I came back out and went to the table again. She caught me again. This time she told me to the table. She made me watch her burn my presents. Then I woke up and my mom was burning my presents.

by: Mandrell Carpenter  
GO TIGERS!

## English Students Share Christmas Stories

There once was a girl who every year had a personal visit from Santa on Christmas Eve. Santa would come to the window and talk to her. Santa told her that he would be there soon. He said, "You need to be asleep or I will not come."

One year Santa came and the girl was sick. Santa said he would come in and see about her. When Santa came in, he scared her and she screamed. Her mom pulled the covers from over her head. There stood Santa and her mom and she screamed again.

Brandy's hobbies include shopping, spending time with family and friends, and swimming. After high school, she plans to attend Auburn University and major in Elementary Education.

an "Evening in Paris." This theme was decided on by pageant directors Misty Kelley and Elizabeth Strong and sponsor, Julie Norris. Entertainment for Miss Elba will be provided by jazz band member, Anna Head, and the EHS Jazz Band.

Members of the staff would like to express a thank-you to the students who participated in this year's pageant. Also, the staff would like to say thanks to Elba High School for the use of the facility and Mrs. Padgett for her assistance with decorations.

The journalism staff invites everyone to come out and enjoy an "Evening in Paris" on January 10, 1998 at 6:00 PM in the Elba High School auditorium.

As the sparkle of dust fell on me, a feeling of joy and good will came into me and I smiled. I started laughing out loud then I quieted back down.

Santa finished his work, then turned and waved goodbye and walked out the door. As I sat there, feeling wonderful, I realized that Santa had opened my eyes to the joy of Christmas. His sparkly dust had worked a miracle on this modern-day scrooge. I went back to my room knowing tomorrow would be a wonderful day. I'd make sure of it myself.

by: Tawanna Rodgers  
The students of Elba High School remember the first day of school all too well. No more sleeping late and eating breakfast at 1:00 in the afternoon. It was time to get into the grind with new teachers and new classes. Well, get ready students, because January 5 will bring a strong reminder to that day. Once again, new teachers and new classes.

This is an important semester for many. For the class of '98 it will be the last semester of high school. For the class of '99, it will be the last semester before they become "Big Bad SENIORS!" For the rest of the students at E.H.S., it will be the last semester before a long-awaited summer vacation. So, E.H.S. students don't be weary of the new semester, look forward to it!

by: Amanda Campbell  
On January 15, Mr. Rusty Parker from the Mailbox Company will be at Elba High School to take cap and gown measurements. He will be in the E.H.S. library classroom at 7:30 a.m. to begin taking the much-awaited measurements. All seniors are reminded to bring \$25.75 for their deposit. He will also have extra tassels for \$6.00 if anyone would like to purchase one.

by: Terence Kyles  
We all had a wonderful Christmas. We went to all seven continents giving boys and girls toys. The best place was Australia because it was like having Christmas on a summer day.

After going to all the nations, he headed toward the North Pole. We asked, "Are we heading toward the North Pole?" He didn't say a thing, he just smiled at us.

We arrived at the North Pole at 6:30 A.M. He showed us around. He showed us a snow dome. There inside were little kids of all ages. He said, "This is what happens to kids who see me on Christmas Eve night. He zapped us into the snow dome."

This is why your parents tell you to go to sleep early on Christmas Eve night. by: Chris Bryant

Many years ago, when I was young, Santa Clause came to my house. He visited me every year on Christmas Eve. I was always half-awake. I had some cookies and milk ready for him. That Christmas Eve night, he ate the cookies and drank the milk that was ready for him. He knew I was always half-awake. When he finished eating he came to my bed.

On that one night I thought he was relatives came to visit us for the holidays. We shared our greetings and exchanged hugs. We said our grace and began to eat our splendid feast.

"You have been a good girl, just remember next time, not to have your eyes open, and you'll get an extra gift."

The next Christmas Eve, Santa came. I had cookies and milk to give him. That time I was awake again, but he didn't know it. I saw the two gifts put down beside my bed instead of under the tree. He left after he put the gifts down.

The next morning on Christmas Day, I looked beside my bed. There were two gifts. One was my favorite toy, the minichair. The other was a letter that said, "I knew you were awake. I did not know I knew I was awake. I guess I thought I was getting a second gift free."

by: Nancy Chism  
Once upon a time on a Christmas Day, I was walking on the Pea River bridge to my grandmother's house for Christmas. As I was walking I heard a voice. It asked me where I was going. I ignored it and kept walking. When I got to my grandmother's I told her about the voice I had heard. She said, "All these years I've been walking across that bridge and no one has ever told me about a ghost."

Grandmother said, "You didn't know that my dear." "No, I never heard the voice before," I said back. Grandmother said, "Well, now you know and have heard it." "Now I will not be able to get home," I said. "You're not afraid," Grandmother replied. "It is only the Ghost Christmas Year Ago."

As we walked into the kitchen, I asked, "What are we having?" Grandmother replied, "We are having baked potatoes, turkey, yams, and red velvet cake. We sat down at the table and began to fix our plates." Grandmother said, "There should always be a blessing said at the table before we eat." Then a voice spoke up. "Say the blessing, the little girl's right."

"Did you hear that?" Grandmother said. "Yes, I heard it," Grandmother said. "It is just a ghost, grandmother."

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GO TIGERS!

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Views from...

## The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

They may not have admitted it, but I think the Mularz girls were more than a little ready to go back to school this week after spending one rather boring week at home following Christmas. The week prior to Christmas was exciting with some last minute shopping and the fun of waking up Christmas morning to open gifts and seeing what Santa had left; however, the next week was filled with cleaning the house and trying to find something to do. They did get to go to the movies twice, but all in all I think they were ready to get back to the ole' grind when Monday morning rolled around. Now everything will be hectic, as usual!

### ELBA TIGERS BRACE FOR RUGGED HOMESTAND

The Elba Tigers opened up a four-game homestand Tuesday night against the Florida Wildcats, and before they pack their bags to hit the road again will have played three of the top teams in this part of the state. Friday night the Tigers will host Claydon, which always has one of the best teams around, while on Tuesday night Elba will battle the highly-ranked Headland Rams in a crucial area clash, and next Friday the Tigers will battle the 3A Hillcrest Jaguars, which have one of the most exciting teams to be seen.

Elba has jumped out to a 5-3 record this season under the leadership of Coach Marlon Johnston, and has surprised many Tiger fans with its new style of play and dedication to defense. While the loss to Zion Chapel was unexpected, the losses on the road to Enterprise and Headland were certainly nothing to hang one's head over. Both the 6A Wildcats and talented Rams have proven to be quality teams, and both are hard to beat anywhere, especially at home. The five wins are more than many thought the Tigers would get before the holiday break, and have given all Tiger fans hope that even more are on the way.

The upcoming homestand will probably dictate how the Tigers close the season, and while there are no easy games among the four, a 2-2 split would certainly give the Tigers a lift heading down the stretch. I encourage all Elba sports fans to come out during the two-week homestand and watch the Tigers in action. They deserve your support, and you'll be pleased with the effort and style of play the Tigers play for all thirty-two minutes.

### IMPROVEMENT, NOT WINS, IS KEY FOR LADY TIGERS

The Elba Lady Tigers will carry a 3-9 record into the new year, and while the record is certainly nothing to write home about, the Lady Tigers have improved by leaps and bounds and have begun to build a foundation for the program that should be solid for years to come. Coach Leroy Carley had to start from scratch with the girls and teach the very basics of the game, while being limited to scrimmaging due to the fact the team only included seven players. Not being able to scrimmage hurt the team and it was obvious in most games that while the players knew the fundamentals, they really didn't understand how to actually play the game. After twelve games that problem should be solved, and for the remainder of the season the players should show improvement in all areas.

What Elba fans have to do is look for improvement and not worry about the team's record. With teams like Clayton, Headland, Hillcrest, Goshen, Opp and Georgiana left on the schedule, the Lady Tigers' record will get much worse before it gets any better. The players, and their parents, have to realize that the only way to win games is by working hard and improving, and that can't happen overnight. Hang in there girls, the fun isn't as far away as many may think.

### SCAC TOURNAMENT TAKES TOLL ON COUNTY TEAMS

The South Central Alabama Conference held its annual tournament last week at G.W. Long High School, and while a total of six teams from Coffee County were included in the boys and girls action, it turned out to be a short trip through the tournament as only one team managed to get a win, and the teams posted a combined record of 1-6 in the event. Here is a quick look back at what happened.

**KINSTON LADY BULLDOGS (6-8)** claimed one win before being ousted, and the Lady Bulldogs have turned into a pretty good team. The Lady Bulldogs have one of the area's top inside players in April Lee and a true point guard in Brandy Chamblee, and by the end of the season Kinston should have a solid chance at advancing on to the post-season party.

**NEW BROCKTON GAMECOCKS (7-7)** played their worst game in years on the offensive end of the court and saw their record dip to 7-7 with a loss to Sanson. The Gamecocks simply couldn't find a field goal outside throughout the game, and in the second half didn't hit a field goal until only :29 was left in the game. New Brockton is well coached and plays hard on both ends of the court, but they must find an outside game real soon or their opponents will pack it in on defense and it will make life hard for the Gamecocks.

**NEW BROCKTON LADY GAMECOCKS (5-6)** played well enough to win for three and one-half quarters, but then saw the wheels come off as Houston Academy rallied for the win. The Lady Gamecocks have a very good starting five and can compete against any team on their schedule when all five contribute. When one of the five is off, trouble starts. This team can win a bunch of games. So, watch out.

**KINSTON BULLDOGS (1-11)** played hard for all four quarters, but never really threatened in an opening round loss to Arton. The Bulldogs have the desire to win and play hard; they simply aren't loaded with a lot of talent and it shows as the game goes along. Kinston fans aren't used to losing, and neither are the players, but this year the Bulldogs will have to really play well to get many more wins.

**ZION CHAPEL LADY REBELS (0-7)** played one of the state's top girls teams on even terms for two quarters, but simply didn't have enough left in the second half and was eliminated in the opening round by G.W. Long. The Lady Rebels haven't won a game all season, but they play as hard as any team I've seen and are as aggressive as any team could be. If the girls up at Zion Chapel will keep working hard and keep the faith, much better days will come, very soon.

**ZION CHAPEL REBELS (4-6)** gave it all they had for all four quarters before falling to Houston Academy in the opening round. The Rebels play hard all over the court every single minute and are probably one of the better teams I've seen this season. If they will keep playing hard and believe in themselves, the Rebels should have a lot of wins left this season.

### DUSTING OFF THE DESK...

\*\*\*I for one think that it was very fitting that Nebraska and Michigan shared the national title in the two polls last week. Since the two teams never met it was impossible to know which team was the best, and it was very obvious that both teams were deserving of the crown. I may not agree the next time it happens, but this year a split title was the only right solution.

\*\*\*I watched very little of the bowl games during the past two weeks, and while I'll admit the bowl alliance has helped match up some of the better teams, it has also led to some pretty boring match-ups. The empty seats that were visible at the games are a result of the high price of the tickets, and the tickets are high priced because the bowls have to do so much money to be in the alliance. It's a catch 22, and the fans are caught in the middle.

\*\*\*I made my first-ever trip to Skipperville last week to watch the first round of the South Central Alabama Conference basketball tournament, and while my back didn't enjoy sitting through six straight games, it really wasn't all that bad a day. The county teams bombed out; however, they played hard and gave me a chance to see all of them in action for the first time this season. It takes a dedicated fan to sit through six straight high school basketball games, but for those fans it was great.

\*\*\*If you like to watch youngsters play basketball, the Recreation Center will be the place to be this weekend as the Elba Department of Parks and Recreation will host nine games in its various youth leagues. The players will range in age from six to twelve, and the action will be non-stop as the games will begin at 9:00 AM and continue until all games are completed. You don't have to stay for all the games, but try and see at least one or two. You won't leave disappointed.

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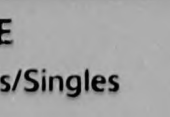
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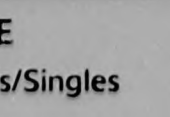
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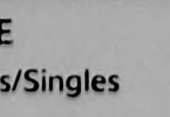
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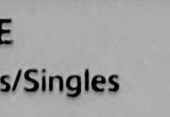
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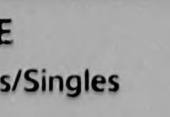
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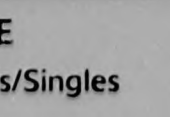
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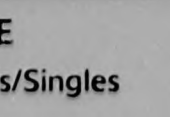
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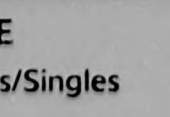
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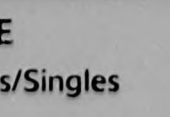
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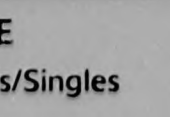
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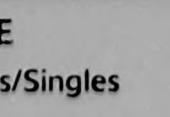
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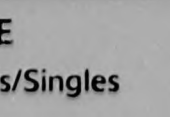
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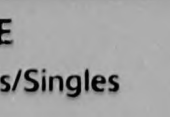
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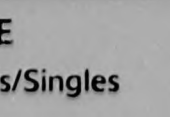
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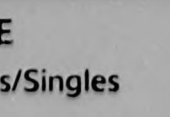
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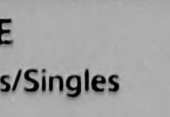
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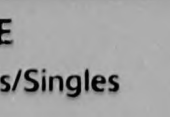
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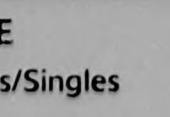
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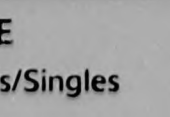
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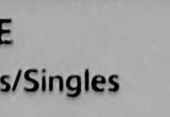
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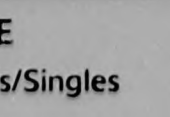
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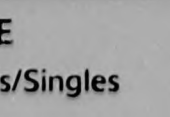
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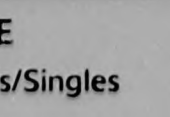
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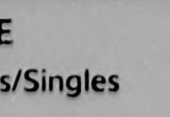
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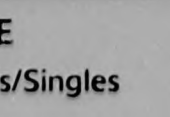
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